

RAILROAD IS BLAMED

Coroner Holds Atlantic City Horror Due to Neglect.

RAIL WAS NOT IN ITS PLACE

Electrical Contractor Testifies that Automatic Device for Locking Drawbridge Was Constantly Out of Order—Aged Bridgetender Forged to Hammer Rail Into Place.

Philadelphia, Pa., Nov. 5.—Coroner Gaskill, of Atlantic City, tonight officially announced that it was his belief that the tragic wreck into the Thoroughfare Sunday, a week ago, in which fifty-seven persons lost their lives, was caused by faulty mechanism of the railroad drawbridge, over which the electric cars ran.

Lloyd Byers, an electrical contractor, an expert in his line, and the man employed by the Pennsylvania Railroad to install the electrical apparatus on the new system, gave at the renewed inquest into the case to-day, the most damaging testimony against the railroad yet heard. Upon it the coroner, in part, based his decision.

Constantly Out of Order.

Byers testified that the automatic device for locking the rails of the drawbridge over the Thoroughfare at Atlantic City, into which the train plunged, was constantly out of order; that one of the rails invariably, after the closing of the bridge, stuck up in the air.

This rail, he swore, whether in hot weather or cold had to be hammered into place by Stewart, the aged bridgetender.

Upon this testimony, confirming the theory that the faulty mechanism of the bridge caused the disaster, came other evidence tending to show that Stewart had forgotten to hammer the rail in place after the Schooner Stribad, for which the draw was opened.

Stewart afterward seemed much excited. The purpose of the testimony was to show that the old bridgetender had forgotten to hammer the rails as the faulty mechanism demanded.

Comes to System's Defense.

Samuel Lovell, superintendent of the West Jersey and Seashore road, under which the new line comes, made strenuous defense of the system. His main point was that it cost \$50,000, and therefore could not be wrong.

During the afternoon, despite an unprecedented protest by one of the coroner's jury, the railroad gained a point by having admitted written questions which its attorney handed to the coroner to be asked by him of Superintendent Lovell.

It was ruled that such questions could be submitted.

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Jury Sacharach charged that Prosecutor Abbott, who is assisting at the inquest, was acting as spokesman for the railroad officials. At the end of a wordy dispute, the jury decided to allow the questions. The investigation was adjourned until Wednesday morning.

CASHIER GOES TO PRISON.

Hering Also Becomes Inmate of Joliet with Stensland.

Chicago, Nov. 5.—Paul O. Stensland, president, and Henry W. Hering, cashier, of the defunct Milwaukee Avenue State Bank, were each given sentences of from one to fourteen years by Judge Pickney late this afternoon, following the plea of guilty by Hering to charges of larceny and forgery, and by Stensland to one of forgery.

Stensland displayed evidences of great nervousness, quivering throughout his testimony. He denied he had ever used any of the bank's money for his own pleasures. He said it was all lost in real estate and other investments, and that none of it had been used for gambling.

Payment of the third 20 per cent dividend to depositors of the wrecked bank was begun to-day by Receiver Fetzner.

LABOR ENTERS PROTEST.

Criticizes Sale of Convict-made Goods in Illinois.

Chicago, Nov. 5.—A storm of criticism over the management of the State penitentiary at Joliet was made to-day by Warden Murphy in the published report of a committee of the Chicago Federation of Labor. Most of the conditions found by the committee are declared to be in violation of the convict law. Others, it is declared, can be legalized only by strained interpretations of the statute.

The use for outside production of more than forty per cent of the convicts available for duty, the use, "in defiance of the law," of improved machinery, and wretched conditions of the cellblocks, are the chief violations cited.

The report recommends the repeal of the amendment to the present law, which permits the employment of forty per cent of the convicts on goods to be sold on the open market.

TENT CITY FOR BOYS ONLY.

Five Thousand Will Live in It, and Run Its Government.

Richmond, Ind., Nov. 5.—A boys' town, populated by 5,000 boys, policed by boys, offered by boys, and for boys' own pleasures and instruction, is to be an attraction at the Winona Assembly next year.

The trustees announced yesterday that they had authorized Judge William Brown, of the Juvenile Court, of Salt Lake City, to take charge of such a project and organize a boys' municipality.

The boys will have a section of the grounds set apart for them. They will live in tents. The city will be the first of its kind in the United States. In connection with the scheme will be a school for officers of the Y. M. C. A., Sunday schools, public schools, juvenile court judges, and other students of the boy problem.

Gov. Magoon Felicitated.

Havana, Nov. 5.—Gov. Magoon to-day received a cablegram from President Amador, of Panama, conveying the congratulations of the government.

STEAMER OMEGA WRECKED.

British Vessel, Laden with Coal, Strikes a Reef.

Halifax, N. S., Nov. 5.—The British steamer Omega, while bound from St. Peter's for Charlottetown, P. E. I., with a cargo of coal, struck a ledge near Pugwash, N. S., and is a wreck. The crew were rescued in an exhausted condition. The crew of the British steamer Tarriffa, which went ashore on Prince Edward Island, Saturday, were landed safely at noon to-day. They stated that the vessel is still intact, and although a storm is raging, she is in no danger of breaking up. Wrecking vessels have gone to the assistance of Tarriffa.

THREE CHICAGOANS END LIVES.

Two Shoot Themselves, While One Kills Himself with Gas.

Chicago, Nov. 5.—Dependent over ill health, three Chicagoans killed themselves to-day.

Thomas C. O'Leary, an Alton Railroad clerk, shot himself as he sat on a park bench.

Joseph Jakovec, a printer, ended his life with a revolver, too. Stuber Lidsvinka, a cabinetmaker, killed himself with gas.

CRUSHED BY FALLING GIRDER

Two Workmen on New York Building Killed by Steel Column.

Fourteen Tons of Metal Crashes Through Three Floors of the New Structure.

New York, Nov. 5.—Two workmen were killed this morning as the result of the fall of a fourteen-ton steel column, which was crashing through from the third floor to the basement of a building being erected at Forty-fifth street and Lexington avenue, in connection with the new New York Central Railroad depot.

The men killed were Carl Peterson, thirty-five years old, and Otto Pearson, thirty-two years old, both of Jersey City. The last rites of the church were administered to Pearson at St. Agnes' Church, in the ambulance. Pearson died soon after his admission to the hospital.

By order of Coroner Harburger, Foreman John Stalter, of 88 East 14th street, and his assistant, John Wolf, of 41 East Nineteenth street, were arrested and taken to the Yorkville Police Court, where they were arraigned on a charge of negligence and held for trial.

Shortly after 10 o'clock this morning a massive steel column, twenty feet in length, and weighing about fourteen tons, was being put into position on the third floor when it was jerked from its place by means of a derrick engine on the second floor.

The fourteen-ton column crashed through the open ironwork of the second floor, hitting Peterson a glancing blow as it fell, fracturing his skull. Peterson was working on the ground floor when the column fell on him, crushing and killing him instantly. The column of steel tore a hole fifty by twenty feet in the ground floor of the building.

Dr. Reed, who was called from Flower Hospital, found Peterson dead. Pearson, however, was still alive, and was hurried to the hospital. He was in a critical condition.

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TO ARGUE DEMURRER

Alexandria Officials Defendants in Law Suit.

CONCERNS TRACK REMOVAL

Court Designates December 11 as Date for Hearing—Jury Is Summoned in Case of Loose vs. Southern Railway Company for \$20,000 Damages. Strikers Are Returning to Work.

WASHINGTON HERALD BUREAU. (Herald telegraph, N. A.)

Alexandria, Va., Nov. 5.—Argument on a demurrer filed on behalf of the defendants in the case of the Washington Southern Railway Company against the mayor and city council of Alexandria, involving the proposed removal of the railroad track on Henry street, will be heard before Judge Charles E. Nicholson in the Circuit Court for this city December 11. When the case was reached on the docket to-day Corporation Attorney Samuel P. Fisher asked that a date be set for the hearing. The railroad company will be represented by Attorneys Francis L. Smith and C. C. Carlin. The suit was instituted last June after notice had been given by the city officials of their intention to remove the rails of the practically abandoned track on Henry street from the ground house to the corporation boundary. Before the proposed action was taken, however, Judge Nicholson granted an injunction on petition of the company restraining the mayor and city council from carrying out their purpose in the matter.

A special jury was summoned for the case of J. Louis Loose against the Southern Railway Company for \$20,000 damages for alleged injury to the greenhouses of the plaintiff on South Henry street. It is charged that the property has been damaged by smoke and cinders from the round house and machine shops of the defendant company. The case will be called to-morrow.

Strikers Resume Places.

In accordance with the agreement for the settlement of the strike of machinists on the Southern Railway, all the machinists formally employed in the local shops presented themselves at the doors of the shops this morning to begin work at the usual hour. But owing to some misunderstanding, the special officers on guard there refused to permit the men to enter, and they returned to their homes. Shortly thereafter, they were notified that the doors were open to them, and the majority of the machinists returned to the shops and went to work. The remainder, it is expected, will report at the usual hour to-morrow morning. Several of the machinists formerly employed here will, it is stated, soon be transferred to Monroe, where much of the work formerly done here will be conducted. Some of the machinery has already been moved to Monroe from the local shops.

Water Company Declares Dividend.

At the annual meeting of the stockholders of the Alexandria Water Company, held to-day, reports were received from officers showing the affairs of the company to be in good condition. Messrs. Walter Roberts, Edward L. Daigner, George S. French, Hubert Snowden, William H. H. Ahern, and William F. Lambert were re-elected as directors. Later the directors held a meeting and elected the following officers: Walter Roberts, president; George Uhler, secretary and treasurer; James Eveleth, collector, and Charles Fowler, superintendent. The company declared a semi-annual dividend of \$2.50 per share.

Will Poll Light Vote.

It is expected that the lightest vote in several years will be polled in this city to-morrow in the election for Representatives from the Eighth Congressional district. Unless the general forecasts are wrong, Representative John F. Rixey will overcome his Republican opponent, John E. Henderson, Jr., of Alexandria County. Voting will take place at the usual points, and the polls will be open from 6:21 a. m. to 4:45 p. m. The banks and a few public buildings will be closed, the day being a legal holiday. W. F. Graves, chairman of the Republican committee, to-day issued an address to the voters of the city explaining the platform of the Republican nominee and asking that he be supported.

Cars Not Heated.

Many passengers who travel daily between this city and Washington on the Washington, Alexandria and Mount Vernon line are complaining that the company has failed to heat the cars since

the advent of colder weather. Some of the commuters, it is asserted, have made representations to officials of the company without having the trouble remedied.

Society Reorganized.

The Holy Name Society reorganized yesterday at a meeting in Lyceum Hall, and elected the following officers: James Patterson, Jr., president; Frank Monroe, vice president; Thomas Downey, secretary; Lee Fannon, treasurer; Philip City, chief marshal; Norris Roland, first marshal, and Frank Nugent, second marshal.

The marriage of Miss Maggie Micou and Clarence W. Bagot, of this city, which occurred Saturday at the personage of Trinity M. E. Church, was announced to-day. The ceremony was performed by Rev. J. A. Jeffers.

The Junior Local Assembly, Brotherhood of St. Andrew, will hold a meeting to-morrow evening at 7:30 o'clock at St. Paul's Episcopal Church.

Officer John Roberts has been designated to act as lieutenant of police during the next ten days.

SEANGHAING CAPTAIN HELD

West Williams, Oyster Boat Skipper, Is Under Arrest.

Richmond Authorities Believe There Is Gang Organized There to Ship Unwilling Men into Sea Slavery.

Special to The Washington Herald.

Richmond, Va., Nov. 5.—West Williams alias William West, ship captain, notorious for shanghaiing men from this city for his oyster craft, is under arrest at Onancock, by the Federal authorities on a warrant sworn out by Philip E. Everett, one of his victims.

The authorities had been in search of West for some time. The news of his arrest came to the district attorney here by long distance telephone from Baltimore.

Everett was held aboard the oyster boat Alerta. After being doped and shanghaiing he was treated with the most inhuman cruelty.

United States Marshal Morgan Treva has a number of such complaints, and will likely ask of the Treasury Department the use of a revenue cutter to run down these boats where men are virtually imprisoned, while undergoing the most terrible hardships.

The indications are that there is an agency here through which the men are shanghaiing. The police are on the hunt for the agents.

Dr. Charles M. Hazen, of this city, is in receipt of a letter from Neeson Woolridge, colored, who was shanghaiing in this city with seven other men, who details a long list of cruelties and brutalities, and begs Dr. Hazen to set on foot a movement that will release him and his companions from slavery.

The letter has been received to Gov. Swanson, and he will co-operate with the local authorities in investigating these conditions.

Last year United States Marshal Morgan Treva visited a number of oyster boats in the Chesapeake and rescued several men. They were held as witnesses against the vessel owners.

"LITTLE MOTHER" BURIED.

Playmates of Girl Killed While Carrying Baby Are Her Pallbearers.

Philadelphia, Pa., Nov. 5.—Attended by many relatives and friends in "Little Italy," the funeral of Jennie Donato, the 14-year-old girl who, with her mother, Tony, was killed by a trolley car last Friday morning, took place from their home, 118 Carpenter street, this morning.

Requiem mass was sung at the Church of Our Lady of Good Counsel at 9 o'clock by Rev. Angelo Caruso, the rector. The pallbearers were six playmates of the dead children. The interment was in Holy Cross cemetery.

FISHERMEN ADRIFF ON LAKE.

Searching Parties Looking for Open Gasoline Launch Off Chicago.

Chicago, Nov. 5.—The South Chicago, Michigan City, and St. Joseph life-saving stations are searching the south end of Lake Michigan for a party of fishermen adrift for forty-eight hours in an open gasoline launch and without food.

MILITIA WILL GUARD POLLS

Mingo County, West Virginia, Scene of Political Turmoil.

TROUBLE FIRST AROSE OVER EFFORTS OF DEMOCRATS TO DRIVE COLORED VOTERS FROM COUNTY ON ELECTION DAY.

Special to The Washington Herald.

Huntington, W. Va., Nov. 5.—Owing to the state of political turmoil into which Mingo County has been plunged by occurrences of the past three days, a condition little short of anarchy prevails at Williamson, ninety miles south of this city, and the entire county of Mingo is in a ferment of excitement, which, unless the utmost caution is preserved by the cooler citizens, must result in rioting and bloodshed before the polls close to-morrow.

Conditions grew so grave this forenoon, that Maj. Verlander, commanding the local companies of militia, received orders from Gov. Dawson to hold Companies G, H, and I in readiness to move at a moment's notice.

These companies are waiting the order to entrain for Williamson. Telegraphic advices received here to-night state that the mayor, A. C. Hiss, of Williamson, Chief of Police Wallace Chafin, and nineteen other policemen and special officers, who were arrested this morning by Dan Cunningham and Deputies Sumner and Lynch, of this city, on warrants sworn out by United States Commissioner Gibson, have been released on bond.

United States Marshal A. C. Day, whose arrest by the Williamson authorities Sunday morning precipitated the trouble, was released from jail this afternoon. These movements were a concerted effort on the part of the conservative leaders to buy time to prevent the carnage which must ensue if the first shot is fired.

The condition which threatens to obtain grows out of the violent, bitter political feeling which the events of the past two years have engendered.

Republicans charge that Democratic policemen have attempted to intimidate and run out of the county legal colored voters. On the other hand, Democratic citizens and officials charge that the Republican managers are attempting to work a colonization scheme, and armed themselves to prevent it.

Feeling is at fever heat throughout the county, and while no bloodshed has yet occurred as a result, the situation is one of extreme gravity.

Prosecuting Attorney John A. Sheppard, requesting that troops be sent to-day, ordered the troops to be held in readiness, and there is a strong probability that the order to entrain will come before noon to-morrow.

Both factions are desperate, and it needs only a spark to set the work of carnage going.

MUDD IS DENOUNCED.

Maryland Representative Assailed at Brentwood Mass Meeting.

Special to The Washington Herald.

Brentwood, Md., Nov. 5.—Hon. Sydney E. Mudd, Republican candidate for re-election in the Fifth Congressional district of Maryland, was denounced at a well-attended mass meeting held in Firemen's Hall this evening.

The meeting was called to order by R. G. M. Ross. He introduced Jackson H. Ralston, who stated that Mr. Mudd was not a fit candidate to represent the people of the Fifth Congressional district, and he hoped that every voter who had any conscience would go to the polls to-morrow and put his mark opposite George M. Smith's name. He also favored a revision of the tariff.

Other addresses were made by Hon. J. Enos Ray and Robert W. Wells. The committee on arrangements for the meeting were R. A. Van Horn, Horace White, and Leo Smith, of Brentwood, and George M. Smith, of Berwyn, Md.

Owing to sickness in his family, George M. Smith, Democratic candidate for this district, sent his regrets.

MUDD SEEKS LABOR VOTE.

Result of A. F. of L. in Maryland Campaign Is in Doubt.

Special to The Washington Herald.

Annapolis, Md., Nov. 5.—While the Republicans are confident that Congressman Mudd will be re-elected from the Fifth district, there appears to be some uncertainty as to what effect the labor vote will have to-morrow as the result of the campaign made by the American Federation of Labor in favor of the Democratic candidate, Mr. Smith.

The appeal relates the Congressman's record, and among other things adds that his election will mean a continuation of good times for Annapolis, and his defeat an industrial stagnation. A public appeal of this nature is something new in previous campaigns of Mr. Mudd. The Democrats also lay claim to the county by about 40.

WASHINGTONIANS WANT VOTE

Judge at Rockville Hears Pleas of Those Not Registered.

Special to The Washington Herald.

Rockville, Md., Nov. 5.—In the Circuit Court for this county, to-day, Judge James B. Henderson heard a number of petitions against the officers of registration in several of the precincts of the county, wherein the petitioners either desired names placed on the registration books or erased therefrom.

The most important cases were those in the Ninth district, Gaithersburg, where a number of persons had gone into Washington City and had not made the affidavit, as required by law, that they would return to the county and take up their residence here within six months previous to the coming election.

Congressman Jones Will Win.

Special to The Washington Herald.

Newport News, Va., Nov. 5.—The Republicans of this city were unable to raise sufficient interest for even a single meeting, and Brister will receive practically no vote to-morrow. His support throughout the First district will be extremely light. Congressman W. A. Jones will be re-elected in a walkover, although it is not anticipated that a large vote will be polled.

Joseph H. Lemley Is Dead.

Special to The Washington Herald.

Winchester, Va., Nov. 5.—Joseph H. Lemley, a wealthy resident of Upperville, Loudoun County, died at the Memorial Hospital in this city last night, aged fifty-two years. He is survived by his widow, two sons, and one daughter. Mr. Lemley was a tailor, and his specialty was riding clothes. His customers included many prominent New York and Washington people, who followed the hounds in Loudoun.

Lumber Dealer Bankrupt.

A voluntary petition in bankruptcy was filed in the District Supreme Court yesterday by H. N. Gillingham, a lumber dealer of Tidewater, Va. His debts are stated at \$15,735.55, and assets at \$12,115.42.

C. & O. WILL USE ELECTRICITY.

Big Improvements Now Under Way at Newport News, Va.

SPECIAL TO THE WASHINGTON HERALD.

Newport News, Va., Nov. 5.—The Chesapeake and Ohio Railroad has just awarded to Alsop & Pierce, of this city, the contract for building the new passenger pier, enlarging the terminal station, and constructing a new freight depot, these improvements being necessitated by enormous growth in passenger traffic. The terminal and freight improvements under way will cost upward of \$1,500,000.

Following the announcement of the sale of the Norfolk and Atlantic Terminal Company to the Norfolk and Portsmouth Traction Company, for a consideration of \$350,000, the Newport News and Old Point Railway and Electric Company retaining 150,000 of the first mortgage 5 per cent bonds, comes the statement that Col. W. J. Payne, the president, has purchased a large block of stock of the Newport News and Old Point Railway and Electric Company, and its affiliated and controlled properties, and now personally owns the controlling interest.

It is reported that the Chesapeake and Ohio and the Norfolk and Western railroads are considering the electrification of certain sections of their lines as experiments. It is said that the Chesapeake and Ohio will use electricity instead of steam in its locomotives in Big Bend tunnel, near Roncoveite, W. Va.

FOUND DEAD IN HIS BED.

G. D. Woodrow, of Baltimore, Succumbs to Heart Trouble.

Special to The Washington Herald.

Baltimore, Md., Nov. 5.—George D. Woodrow, assistant general auditor of the Western Maryland and West Virginia Central railroads, was found dead in his bed this morning at his residence, 1812 North Calvert street.

Mr. Woodrow had evidently been dead for some hours when found by Mrs. Woodrow. He had apparently been reading, and had turned down the gas in his apartment. A book was lying open on a table near his bedside. As he had suffered for nearly four years from heart trouble, it is thought by his family that an acute attack carried him off almost instantly, as no call for help was heard from him during the night. Coroner Hayden, who has been notified, will make an investigation.

HISTORIC HOME SOLD.

Henry H. Mitchell Buys "Huntingdon Farm" for \$20,000.

Special to The Washington Herald.